

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 CPR-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-03 L-03 SS-20 NSC-07 INRE-00 DRC-01 /111 W

----- 118747

O R 060900Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1114

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 393

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINS LY

SUBJECT: COLONEL QADHAFI TO DROP PROTOCOL FUNCTIONS

1. AT ABOUT 0200 TRIPOLI TIME APRIL 6 MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DELIVERED A CIRCULAR DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER INFORMING US OF FOLLOWING RCC DECISION (EMBASSY'S TRANSLATION):
QUOTE: IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE, AFTER A STUDY OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL DECREE, THE REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL HAS DECIDED THAT; ARTICLE 1 - WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO THE OFFICIAL DUTIES OF THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PREOCCUPATION OF COLONEL MU'AMMAR AL-QADHAFI WITH THE WORK OF INTELLECTUAL THEORIZING AND MASS ORGANIZING. ARTICLE 2 - IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 1, COLONEL MU'AMMAR AL-QADHAFI IS EXEMPT FROM PERFORMING CUSTOMARY DIPLOMATIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE DUTIES, AND FROM ALL PROTOCOL, INCLUDING THE MEETING OF CHIEFS OF STATE AT AIRPORTS AND PORTS, AND THE RECEIVING OF AMBASSADORS. ARTICLE 3 - THE PRIME MINISTER TAKES OVER THE DUTIES SET FORTH IN ARTICLE 2. ARTICLE 4 - THIS DECISION DOES NOT AFFECT THE POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE

REVOLUTIONARY COMMAND COUNCIL AS PROVIDED FOR IN THE CONSTITUTIONAL DECREE. ARTICLE 5 - THIS TO TAKE EFFECT FROM THE DATE

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OF ISSUANCE AND PUBLIC ACTION IN THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN. ISSUED APRIL

2, 1974. END QUOTE.

2. THE RCC DECISION SEEMS TO BE SIMPLY AN EXPRESSION OF QADHAFI'S
IMPATIENCE WITH PROTOCOL. IN THE LAST WEEK ALONE THREE AFRICAN CHIEFS

OF STATE (RUWANDA, LIBERIA, AND MAURITANIA) HAVE VISITED TRIPOLI.
QADHAFI HAS NEVER PERFORMED MANY "CUSTOMARY ADMINISTRATIVE AND DIP-
LOMATIC FUNCTIONS", AND THE DECISION IS AT PAINS TO MAKE CLEAR THAT HE

KEEPS ALL IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS, INCLUDING THOSE OF COMMANDER IN
CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES. POSSIBLY MFA DELIVERED THREE DAY OLD
DECISION IN MIDDLE OF NIGHT TO EXPLAIN WHY JALLUD AND NOT QADHAFI IS
ATTENDING POMPIDOU SERVICE IN PARIS.
STEIN

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